

Message Text

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60

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 SCI-06 SCEM-02 INT-08 TRSE-00

COME-00 AID-20 PM-07 L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01

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R 251330Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1590

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

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AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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E.O. 16652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG VE

SUBJECT: LATIN AMERICAN ENERGY MINISTERS MEETING

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1. VENEZUELAN MINISTER OF MINES AND HYDROCARBONS HUGO PEREZ LA SAVIA WILL TRAVEL TO LIMA OCTOBER 26 TO ATTEND THIRD LATIN AMERICAN ENERGY AND PETROLEUM MINISTERS MEETING, SLATED FOR OCTOBER 29, ACCORDING TO MINISTRY SOURCE. ACCOMPANYING THE VENEZUELAN DELEGATION WILL BE: MARCIAL PEREZ CHIRIBOGA, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL POLICY OF FOREIGN MINISTRY; AND OFFICIALS OF MINISTRY OF MINES AND HYDROCARBONS, INCLUDING LUIS PLAZ BRUZUAL, DIRECTOR OF HYDROCARBONS; GUILLERMO ALTUVE WILLIAMS, JUDICIAL COUNSEL; RUBEN CHAPARRO ROJAS, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO MINISTER; RUBEN CARO OF THE HYDROCARBONS OFFICE; AND JULIO CESAR GIL OF THE OFFICE OF PETROLEUM ECONOMICS.

2. MINISTRY SOURCE SAYS MAIN ITEM ON AGENDA WILL BE CREATION OF PERMANENT ORGANIZATION OF LATIN AMERICAN ENERGY MINISTERS WITH PERMANENT SECRETARIAT. ALSO TO BE DISCUSSED IS SITE FOR HEADQUARTERS OF ORGANIZATION, LIMA BEING MOST LIKELY CHOICE.

3. ON OTHER TOPIC LIKELY TO FIGURE PROMINENTLY IN DISCUSSIONS AT LIMA MEETING, MUCH TO VENEZUELA'S REGRET, IS PROBLEM OF LATIN OIL IMPORTING COUNTRIES WHICH ARE FACED BY EVER-INCREASING PRICES FOR OIL. MANY LATIN DELEGATIONS ARE EXPECTED BY VENEZUELAN DELEGATION TO BRING CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FOR CREATION OF PREFERENTIAL PRICES TO FAVOR LDC OIL IMPORTERS IN LATIN AMERICA. VENEZUELA'S POLICY, ACCORDING TO MINISTRY SOURCE, IS TO AVOID PREFERENTIAL PRICES BUT TO OFFER HELP IN OTHER WAYS SUCH AS COOPERATION TO DEVELOP ENERGY RESOURCES ELSEWHERE IN LATIN AMERICA.

4. IT WAS ENTIRELY PREDICTABLE WHEN VENEZUELA TOOK LEAD IN CREATING PERIODIC SESSIONS OF LATIN ENERGY MINISTERS THAT SESSIONS WOULD BE USED BY MANY OTHER LATIN NATIONS TO PRESSURE VENEZUELA FOR PREFERENTIAL OIL PRICES. FOR THIS REASON, PROMOTING SUCH SESSIONS MAY HAVE BEEN, FROM POINT OF VIEW OF VENEZUELAN INTERESTS, PEREZ LA SALVIA'S GREATEST FOLLY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CARACA09136
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731013/aaaaajbf.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Jan-2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LATIN AMERICAN ENERGY MINISTERS MEETING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TAGS: ENRG, VE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005